



Durham County EMS Advisory Council Minutes

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Present- David Marsee, Winslow Forbes, Tracy Stell, Richard Hopper, Donna Kovalick, Mike Smith, Pres Creery, Jackie Holmes, Mark Holland, Tanya Watkins, Sheilah Lowans, Eric Ossmann, Kathy Mellown

Call to order at 5:30 by David Marsee

Introductions- First time at meeting for Jackie Holmes serving as Interim Assistant Director. Tanya Watkins is Lebanon Volunteer Fire Department Representative recently appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Agency Reports-

- Bethesda, Bahama- absent
- Lebanon- none
- Parkwood- none
- 911- absent
- VA- Phase I- open tentatively 4/18/2013
- DRH- none
- Durham Fire- absent
- EMS- 1/1/13- assumed responsibility for Bahama. Assumed Responsibility for Redwood and Bethesda on July 1, 2012 at the beginning of the fiscal year with the exception of Parkwood. Medic 10,11,12 are at volunteer departments. VFDs are now first responder level. Rumor that EMS was taking over Parkwood by Durham County EMS on 7/1/14 is not true. County has been requested to assume operations for Bethesda Fire Dept on July 1, 2013. The BOCC has to approve this move. It is on the agenda for April's work session. EMS Budget submitted for Fiscal Year 14; asking for replacement of stretchers- life cycle of a stretcher is 7 years old, some are 12-15 years old. Good maintenance program has prolonged life cycle, but hard to find parts now. Chair stretchers are over 20 years old, hard to find parts as well. Programming and partnering with community and hospitals, training with EMS personnel for mental health outreach within the community,

for those that are seen frequently. Initiative to look at care plans between EMS, police, social worker, case manager, and hospital to provide assistance to these individuals that connects them to appropriate resources versus the Emergency Department. Durham Housing Authority advised they will be building some new apartments to accommodate some homeless and some regular apts. However, if patient has a criminal background, they will not take them.

- Durham PD- none
- Consumers- none
- Dr. Ossmann- none
- Sheriff's- absent

Old Business-

1. EMS System Safety Committee- John O'Donnell, Sarah Houston, Kevin Wilson has been identifying target areas. Performance improvement area looking at cardiac arrest and safety elements.

New Business- Mike Smith read an article regarding 3 out of 4 EMS responders will suffer a back injury within 4 years after going to work.

Motion moved to adjourn meeting at 5:52 by David Marsee.

2nd by Tanya Watkins.